

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What percent cut will be made to existing grants?**

Reductions to continuation awards will vary depending on the circumstances of the particular program. Since the sequester took effect on March 1, 2013, CDC has been working across the agency to apply the reductions in a way that complies with the requirements of the law and—to the extent possible—protects our core public health functions.

CDC has more than 160 program/project/activity (PPA) budget lines. The sequester was applied to every PPA line (except those funded entirely by PHS Evaluation transfers). These budgets range from \$200,000 to \$740 million.

### **What will the effects of sequestration be on State and Local Health Departments?**

We have made every effort to minimize the negative impact cuts will have on grants to state and local health departments, in developing our sequestration plan. We have done our best to limit overall reduction for any grant program and consider carryover balances from previous fiscal year(s). A 5 percent reduction in state and local government discretionary awards would be approximately \$160 million.

### **Will the duration of existing grants be shortened to accommodate the cuts?**

In general, no.

### **Will all awards receive the same percentage cut or will some awards be cut more than others?**

CDC programs have flexibility to accommodate the new budget level in a way that allows them to meet their public health goals; however, all programs are following the guidance to minimize the negative impact cuts will have on state and local health departments. In addition, there may be reductions to grants for reasons other than sequestration, as is the case every year.

### **Will some areas of public health be affected more than others?**

The sequester does not stipulate the precise reduction to each area. However, it is likely that most public health activities will be reduced by about 5 percent because the sequester is being applied broadly at CDC. Reductions due to PPHF allocations are targeted to specific activities, as identified in our operating plan.

### **Will CDC be furloughing or cutting employees?**

There are no current plans to do so. At present, HHS is pursuing non-furlough administrative cost savings such as delayed/forgone hiring and reducing administrative services contracts so that furloughs and layoffs can be avoided. CDC scientists and public health professionals work 24/7 to protect the public's health.

**Will the sequester cut need to be applied to the FY 2014 budget?** The President's FY 2014 Budget would replace sequestration and reduce the deficit in a balanced way. The President is ready to work with Congress to further reduce deficits while continuing to make critical investments.

**HELPFUL LINKS:**

- [CDC FY2013 Operating Plan](#)
- [CDC Contracts Notification](#)
- [CDC Grants Notification](#)
- [CDC Budget Website](#)